



REMARKS

Applicants have canceled claims 1-15 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Applicants have added claims 16-19, which are copied from U.S. Patent No. 6,293,951 to *Alferness et al.*, which issued September 25, 2001 (copy enclosed). Claims 16-19 of the instant application correspond respectively to claims 1,9, 22 and 23 of the '951 patent. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 16-19 will be pending in the instant application.

By filing this preliminary amendment, applicants have fully complied with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 135(b)(1) since the claims are being copied less than one year after issuance of the '951 patent. Applicants request examination of the claims. A first office action on the merits is awaited.

Any fees that may be due in connection with this application throughout its pendency may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1213.

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Respectfully submitted,
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